

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-6 and 9-24 remain in the application. Claims 1 and 24 have been amended. Claims 7-8 have been cancelled.

In item 3 on pages 2-3 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 1-6 and 9-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Wang et al. (US Pat. No. 6,452,201).

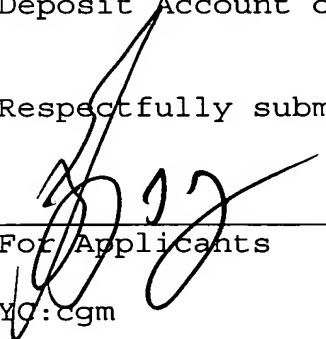
The rejection has been noted and claims 1 and 24 have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application. Support for the changes is found in original claim 7. Since claim 7 contains allowable subject matter as indicated by the Examiner in item 4 on page 3 of the Office action, claims 1 and 24 are now believed to be allowable. Since all of the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be patentable as well.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-6 and 9-24 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out. In the alternative, the entry of the amendment is requested as it is believed to place the application in better condition for appeal, without requiring extension of the field of search.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

  
For Applicants

YQ:cgm

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